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REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF

KEENE, N. H.

ALSO THE

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN,

AND THE

REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER,

FOR THE YEAR

ENDING MARCH 10, 1863.

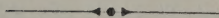
KEENE:

PRINTED AT THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE SENTINEL OFFICE.

1863.

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REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

In compliance with the law of the State, the Superintending School Committee of Keene, submit to the Town the following Report of the Schools. for the year ending March 10th, 1863 :—

The sum raised by the Town for the support of Schools at its last Annual Meeting was 3,786.00. The amount of Literary Fund received by the Town was \$305.70. The amount raised by the High School Associated Districts was \$800.00 ; amounting in all to the sum of \$4,891.70 appropriated for the support of Public Schools in the Town during the year. In addition to this, there has been paid for instruction in Private Schools, the sum of \$200.00, making the amount expended in town for the purpose of education \$5,091.70.

It gives us great pleasure to be able to say that the schools have maintained their usual prosperity and usefulness during the past year. No cases of serious difficulty have occurred in any district, and the teachers, with very few exceptions, have sustained themselves in a creditable manner, and with advantage to their scholars.

The Prudential Committees were generally successful in securing able and efficient teachers, who were well qualified to discharge the responsible duties devolving upon them, and their arduous and sometimes perplexing labors, requiring wisdom and discretion have been crowned with success.

If we would see our schools improve, there must be unceasing vigilance on their behalf, let every influence be exerted to make them the means of intellectual strength, physical development and moral worth.

SCHOOL STATISTICS

Rev. Mr. HAMILTON visited Centre, Nos. 6, 10, and 11 in the spring term.

Mr. WHEELOCK visited Nos. 1, 5, 9, 12, and 13 during the year, and Centre and No. 11, in the fall and winter terms.

Mr. TILDEN visited Nos. 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8 during the year, and Nos. 6 and 10 in the fall and winter terms.

CENTRE SCHOOL. Primary. Miss NETTIE J. FRENCH, teacher. There were two terms of 11 weeks each. Number of pupils, 53 and 63. Nearly all these juveniles were registered under eight years of age, which made the task of the teacher laborious and trying to the patience. But even-tempered, and industrious, she seemed fitted for the place, and rendered the district good and faithful service.

In the upper primary there were two terms of 11 weeks and one of 13. Number of scholars, 43, 38, 90.

The alarming number of pupils, which crowded the opening weeks of the third term, soon dropped down to a reasonable average. The term is not yet finished. Miss MARTHA A. WHEELER, the teacher, seems rather to preside over, than to govern those under her charge, so quietly and with so little effort is this large school managed. Great industry and practical skill enables her to perform her duty to the numerous classes, and to make this an excellent school.

Centre Intermediate had in the three terms 51, 52, 58 scholars. There was a remarkable degree of punctuality this year, which we generally find indicative of a remarkable school. Miss ELLEN R. STONE, the teacher, from long experience and uniform success, seems to have placed herself above ordinary criticism. We think, however, the present year more than usually successful, perhaps because we have forgotten the successes of the past.

Singular good fortune, or other good quality, enabled the Prudential Committee to retain all his teachers throughout the year.

No. 1, Primary, had three terms of 12, 9, and 11 weeks. Number of pupils each term, 51, 44, 37.

Miss LIZZIE S. WOODWARD, who seemed ambitious of doing her whole duty, and more if possible, made this an excellent school. Besides the usual singing, we witnessed here some of those useful exer-

cises for girls, more extensively introduced into No. 10 by Miss Beals. We think, when teachers in our large primary schools have no singing to enliven the weary, these pleasing exercises would equally serve to renew the spirits of children, and relieve that restlessness produced by long confinement in one position.

The fall and winter schools were taught by Miss FRANCES A. CHASE in an entirely satisfactory manner.

No. 1. Intermediate. Three terms of 11, 9, 11 weeks; number of pupils, 45, 45, 39. Miss B. M. WILLARD taught the summer term, and for once in the memory of the Committee this school has been well governed, and might be found at any time in good order. Lessons uniformly well learned, and well recited, and the closing examination was creditable to the school.

Teacher next term, Miss LIZZIE S. WOODWARD. The scholars seemed to infer from the change of teachers that they were not to be governed much, which made it impossible for Miss Woodward to secure that ready and willing obedience so necessary to a school's prosperity. Though less successful than in the Primary, the teacher accomplished all that could be expected under the circumstances. The reading classes never appeared better.

Miss ELLEN M. TAGGARD, the ... seemed

ment than older scholars. We are therefore disposed to attach more importance to the selection of teachers for such schools than is commonly thought necessary. We would have children at the most susceptible period of their lives, under teachers who are not only well instructed themselves but apt to teach, naturally kind in disposition, and fond of children.

No. 2. Upper Primary Department. *Summer*.—There were two terms of 10 weeks each. Number of scholars 64 and 61; average attendance, 54 each term; tardy, 13 and 8.

The first term was commenced by Miss MARIA N. MESSENGER, the successful teacher of the previous year, but after a few weeks her health failing she was compelled to give up the school. She was succeeded by Miss IRENE A. CARPENTER, whose praise as a teacher is in all our schools. Her health also failing, she relinquished the school about the middle of the second term, and her place was acceptably filled by Miss MARY S. DICKINSON.

The winter school of 10 weeks was also taught by Miss Dickinson. Number of scholars, 54; average attendance, 44; tardy, 10.

Miss Dickinson, by her quiet and lady-like deportment, could not fail of having a good influence upon the school. She was gentle, self-possessed and firm, as well as patient and thorough in giving instruction, and it is sufficient praise to say that the school under her care full

Miss Wheeler was gladly welcomed again to this school where she had during former years honorably proved her fidelity as a teacher, and left with her scholars pleasant memories of her kindly instruction and rule; her renewed success fully sustained her reputation as a skilful teacher and a strict disciplinarian. The course of the school was peaceful, profitable and pleasant, and the closing examination was in all respects highly creditable alike to pupils and teacher. We were particularly gratified with the exercise of map drawing and recitations in geography.

No. 3. Miss L. JENNIE KEMP had charge of this school during the summer. Length, 12 weeks; number of scholars, 35; average attendance, 24; tardy, 3.

This was a good school. Miss Kemp has a right understanding of the duties of a teacher. Mild and gentle, though firm, she won the esteem of her scholars, and at the same time maintained the order and discipline necessary to the prosperity of the school. Improvement was very manifest in all the branches of study pursued.

The winter term of 12 weeks was under the care of Mr. GEORGE W. BRITTON. Number of scholars, 43; average attendance 40, tardy, 6.

Mr. Britton possesses the advantage of a thorough education and experience in teaching. Under his instruction the school fully sustained its former good character. The scholars not only made good progress, but evidently understood what they attempted to learn. The examination was well attended, and it is due to all the classes to state, that the proficiency exhibited in the closing exercises was entirely satisfactory.

No. 4. *Summer*.—This school was under the charge of Miss MARY S. WHITCOMB. Length of the school 10 weeks; number of scholars, 13; average attendance, 10 1-2; tardy, 11.

Miss Whitcomb is a prompt and energetic teacher. The scholars were diligent and attentive to their studies, and the result was a profitable school. Decided improvement was very evident at the close.

Winter.—Miss MYRA LAKE, teacher. Length 13 weeks; number of scholars, 19; average attendance, 17; tardy, 35.

Miss Lake is a teacher who knows and performs her whole duty

in the school room. The entire success of this school shows that neither labor nor pains have been spared this term. The examination was well attended, and the exercises showed a high degree of improvement.

No. 5. There were two terms of 11 and 12 weeks. Number of pupils, 17, 15; average attendance, 12, 10.

Miss JULIA D. GODFREY taught during both terms. Very successful in her first experience, Miss Godfrey seems to have given general satisfaction to the district, and the progress of the school was very commendable.

No. 6. Miss ELLA M. GAY taught during the summer. Length of school, 12 weeks; number of scholars 25; average attendance, 21; tardy, 14.

In this, her second term, Miss Gay maintained the reputation she gained in the first. The scholars were generally diligent and orderly, and the teacher faithful and interested in her work. The school appeared well at the close.

The winter term of 12 weeks was under the care of Miss SARAH B. FREEMAN. Number of scholars, 31; average attendance, 26; tardy, 8.

Miss Freeman is young in the profession, this being her first school. She has many of the qualifications of a good teacher. She was devoted to her duties, and exerted herself to benefit those entrusted to her care. Most of the scholars made fair proficiency in their studies. If any did not, the fault was their own.

No. 7. Teacher, Miss LOIS W. LEACH. There were two schools of 6 and 10 weeks each. Number of scholars 9; average attendance 6 and 8, tardy, 5.

This was the second year of Miss Leach's labors in this school, and it is sufficient to say she fully maintained the reputation which she had already acquired. The order was good and the improvement very satisfactory, especially in reading and arithmetic.

No. 8. *Summer*.—Miss F. JOSEPHINE BUXTON, teacher. Length of the summer school 10 weeks. Number of scholars, 22; average attendance, 20; tardy, 3.

Miss Buxton discharged the duties of her vocation with an earnestness and enthusiasm, which could not fail to awaken a deep interest in the scholars in their studies, and which resulted in manifest

improvement. Many of the exercises at the close were worthy of high commendation.

Mr. HIRAM BLAKE had charge of the winter term of 10 weeks. Number of scholars, 26; average attendance, 24; tardy, 9.

The district was fortunate in again securing the services of Mr. Blake, whose experience and faithful labors as an instructor were rewarded with marked success. The school was orderly and the scholars attentive and diligent. The recitations of the classes at the closing examination, displayed an intimate acquaintance with the studies which they had pursued, and were very satisfactory to all who witnessed them. The exercises in arithmetic and geography were particularly good.

No. 9 had 18 weeks schooling, with a short vacation of 6 weeks. The largest number of pupils was 10; average, 7; teacher, Miss MARIA A. HOLT.

The few pupils here were well advanced in learning, and old enough to govern themselves, not testing the governing capacity of a teacher. The methods of teaching were excellent. The school's condition cannot be described in fewer words, than to say, that there seemed to be here in the pine woods, a flourishing branch of the High School, to which, for the want of Institutes, we must hereafter look, and can confidently look, for the education of our teachers.

No. 10. Primary Department. There were three terms of 10, 8, and 9 weeks, taught by Miss SARAH F. BEAL. Number of scholars, 54, 57, 50; average attendance, 44, 46, 41; tardy, 20, 24, 13.

Miss Beal has the essential elements of a good teacher. Energetic and skilful as well as kind in disposition. She maintained good order and discipline among her pupils. The progress of the school was successful, and the improvement very satisfactory. We were highly gratified at our different visits, to notice a new feature introduced by the teacher to relieve the weariness of the young pupils, consisting of a series of graceful exercises, all tending to improve the physical powers, and give ease to the motions of the scholars.

No. 10. Intermediate. Miss JOSEPHINE A. LEES taught the school during three terms of 10, 8, and 9 weeks each. Number of scholars, 52, 50, 52; average attendance, 48, 45, 46; tardy, 9, 6, 8.

Miss Lees is an experienced teacher, and eminently qualified for

the business in which she is engaged. The discipline and order of the school during the year was excellent; such, also, was the improvement in all the branches of study. The scholars and teacher deserve much praise for the very satisfactory character of the school. The exercises in reading, geography, and drawing of maps at the close of the winter term were worthy of special commendation.

No. 11 had three terms of 9, 8, and 12 weeks. Number of pupils, 35, 29, 33. The two first terms were under the charge of Miss ELLEN M. THOMPSON, who labored hard for the good of her scholars, but, owing perhaps in some degree to the character of some of her pupils, the appearance of the school was not very satisfactory.

Mr. AMOS J. BLAKE taught the last term, who, although failing to keep that degree of order which committees usually require, seemed in other respects to have nearly his usual success. His methods are better suited to older and more advanced pupils.

No. 12 had two terms of 8 and 12 weeks. Number of pupils 14, 22; and but 4 cases of tardiness in the winter term, Miss FRANCES M. WHITE taught in the summer with very good success, and Mr. JULIUS E. RUGG in the winter. This school has been noted for the intelligence and industry of its pupils. Under the care of Mr. Rugg much ground was gone over, and it is believed thoroughly. Classes in Arithmetic and Algebra were particularly mentioned as appearing well.

No. 13. There were two terms of 10 and 12 weeks. Number of pupils, 19, 24; average attendance, 16, 20. Miss EMILY M. NIMS taught in the summer, and Mr. ALBERT F. NIMS in the winter.

These were both good schools. The scholars seemed interested in their studies. Sufficient progress was made and with apparent thoroughness. The closing examinations were creditable to the scholars.

HIGH SCHOOL.

Summer term, 12 weeks ; whole number of scholars, 85—males 35, females 50 ; average attendance, 82.2 ; number not absent, 64 ; tardy, 0. Number of visits by Superintending Committee, 14 ; Prudential Committee, 6 ; Citizens, 162.

Fall term, 12 weeks ; whole number of scholars, 75—males, 29 ; females, 46 ; average attendance, 72 ; number not absent, 52 ; tardy, 0. Number of visits by Superintending Committee, 12 ; Prudential Committee, 5 ; Citizens, 207.

Winter term, 14 weeks ; number of scholars, 103—males, 39 ; females, 64 ; average attendance, 100.42 ; number not absent, 73 ; tardy, 1. Visits by Superintending Committee, 15 ; Prudential Committee, 8 ; Citizens, 620.

The High School has been under the care of Mr. and Mrs. Burbank, the same teachers as last year, assisted during the third term by Miss Fanny Whitcomb, formerly a pupil in the High School, well qualified for the situation.

A glance at the above statistics will show that the average attendance and punctuality of the scholars, will not suffer by a comparison with any other year ; and it also exhibits the extraordinary fact that there has been but one instance of tardiness during the whole three terms of 38 weeks.

We would speak in terms of special commendation of the High School. The results of our visits and examinations have been of the most agreeable and satisfactory character, and have conclusively shown that the school has lost nothing in the past year of the well-earned reputation for thorough instruction and good order, which it has of late years enjoyed, and for which it is distinguished at home and abroad.

The High School, in itself considered, is a most important institution ; conducted with singular ability, devotedness and fidelity by its present teachers, eminent in all the intellectual and moral qualifications that fit them for the noble and arduous work, not merely of imparting the semi-mechanical art of reading, writing and arithmetic, but teaching the pupil the great art and power of life—how to

use his intellect, and how to train every faculty to the greatest point of alertness and strength, and forming them into intellectual and spiritual beings; giving to many their first appreciations of what is wise, what is true, what is lovely, and what is pure, in addition to the maintenance of the order and discipline which are so necessary to the existence of a model school.

The County Commissioners constitute a Board of Education, which makes an annual report to the Legislature. This contains the reports of the Commissioners themselves, and extracts from the reports of Superintending Committees from some 230 towns. All these make up a volume of 300 pages. We have looked over these pages, and perhaps cannot tell the wants of our own schools, better than to repeat some of the many voiced complaints of this volume. Of course there is much sameness in these reports, and they all unite in requiring good order, regular attendance, punctuality, and all agree that schools, in which parents take no interest, soon run out and become worthless.

SCHOOL HOUSES.—In some towns they complain of wretched school-houses—clap-boards all off, old-fashioned rickety seats, sooty streaks running down leaky chimneys, cracks in the floor, cracks in the ceiling, children freezing from the entrance of too much air, &c. Others complain of over-heated rooms, no air at all; while in larger towns, as Concord, they speak of pale and puny children, families degenerating, and liable to become extinct, and the need of physical training, air and exercise.

ARITHMETIC.—Several committees complain of too much time being given to arithmetic. They speak of "the eternal round of ciphering" of boys "figuring over the same track" for ten successive years, without much benefit. We also have had similar misgivings on this subject, when we have seen large boys in school, who, having been over their arithmetic so often as to have lost all interest, and having no other study, had nothing to do but to distract the school. We think that this want of interest, is the reason why so few boys are to be found in our schools over 16 years of age.

GEOGRAPHY.—Very little is said on this subject except to complain of want of maps. One committee says, too much time is given to distant countries, small places, rivers, &c., not worth remembering. We have interested ourselves the past year or two in this branch of study, and have more serious complaints to make. We have found it to be a common practice, for a teacher to give for a lesson a certain number of questions and answers as they are printed in the book, which are to be committed to memory word for word. This class is called out, the stated questions are put, if the scholar's memory holds out long enough they are answered; the lesson is supposed to be well recited, the teacher is silent, a little bell is touched and the scholars file off to their seats. Nine times in ten there is something in that lesson not understood by the class, and such classes never appear well under examination. We have complained much of teachers taking so little pains to find out the weak spots in a scholar's lesson; that they are so chary of oral instruction, so sparing of illustration; for many a dull boy, who pores over his book all day to no purpose, learns all he does learn, in the few moments of recitation, from the well-timed comments of a good teacher.

We have said thus much on this subject, because we have classes in Geography which may challenge any in the State, and we wish we had more like them.

WRITING.—There is a general complaint of the neglect of this branch of education.

TEXT BOOKS.—There has been so much complaint in some towns, about the variety and change of books, that the Board of Education have made a table of all the different books recommended by committees in the State. This table shows that 158 towns have the same reading books, 160 the same geography, and that there is not a great variety of books recommended; and they are of opinion that nothing would be gained by legislating on this subject.

Much of this complaint about change of books arises from the rapid growth of the young scholar. A good scholar outgrows his books, as fast as he does his clothes; and many parents retard their children by not furnishing them books adapted to their age. We occasionally have seen a boy, sometimes a class, in a reading-book much too old for them; they toil painfully through a paragraph,

bring up at every polysyllable as though it were their last resting place ; and make about as much progress as a polar expedition.

We have introduced one little book the past year, Allen's Primary Geography. We have so many little children in our Primary schools just commencing this study, who need more simple language, more youthful ideas and illustrations than those of books now in use, that we think we have found a treasure in this little book. It has additional value from the fact that, it is not filled up with those columns of questions, which are so sure to extinguish a teacher's interest in a lesson, and make it a mere repetition of words from memory.

TEACHERS.—Much is said of the inefficiency of teachers who have just learning enough to procure a certificate but no other qualification. In some towns they charge this evil upon Prudential Committees, who are accused of taking turns in office, so that men are sometimes chosen, who take no trouble to inquire concerning a teacher, but hire perhaps some relative or the first who comes along. The loss of the Institute, or the want of a Normal School is very generally deplored.

GEO. TILDEN,
G. A. WHEELOCK,
J. A. HAMILTON,
Superintending Committee.

Keene, March 10, 1863.

^aNOTE. Mr. HAMILTON is now absent, and has been absent most of the year serving his Country in another capacity.

TABLE I.—SUMMER SCHOOLS.

DISTRICTS.....	Centre	No. 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	P. U. P. I.	P. I.	P. U. P. I.	P. U. P. I.	P. U. P. I.	P. U. P. I.	P. U. P. I.	P. U. P. I.	P. U. P. I.	P. U. P. I.	P. U. P. I.	P. U. P. I.	P. U. P. I.	P. U. P. I.
Length of sch'l in wk's...	22 22 22	21 20	20 20 19	12 10 12	12 10 12	6 10 6	10 6 18	18 17 8	10 10					
Whole No. of pupils...	63 46 54	51 45	53 64 60	35 13 17	25 9 22	7 57 52	35 14 19							
Males,.....	35 26 25	24 22	25 28 22	20 7 6	13 9 12	0 29 17	18 3 7							
Females,.....	28 20 27	27 23	28 36 33	15 6 11	12 0 10	7 28 35	17 11 12							
Average Attendance..	50 37 48	40 39	40 54 44	24 10 12	21 6 20	5 45 47	24 12 17							
No. of p'ls ov'r 16 yr's	0 0 0	0 0	0 0 0	3 0 0	1 0 1	0 0 0	5 0 0							
Nr. of p'ls und'r 16 yr's	63 46 52	51 45	53 64 60	32 13 17	24 9 22	7 57 52	34 9 19							
No. of tardy marks;..	14 28 12	32 33	74 16 39	3 11 2	14 0 3	0 44 15	14 3 7							
No. not tardy,.....	57 34 45	33 34	40 54 45	32 9 15	15 9 19	7 33 44	28 13 12							
No. not absent 1-2 day.	10 5 13	4 10	4 12 7	1 1 0	2 0 6	2 11 26	4 4 2							
Whole No. of visits...	94 85 94	184 200	90 199 127	40 23 59	34 8 30	25 70 113	49 38 34							
Visits by S. S. Com...	6 12 13	9 8	10 12 10	3 2 4	1 3 2	9 10 4	2 3							
Visits by Prud. Com..	5 11 8	4 5	6 6 4	1 1 0	1 0 2	0 3 3	1 1 2							
Wages of teacher per m'th including board.	15 22 26	24 24	20 22 27	16 15 16	16 14 16	16 11 22	26 20 13	15						

TABLE II.—WINTER SCHOOLS.

DISTR. CTS.....	Centre	No. 1	No. 2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	P. I.	P. I.	P. U. P. I.	P. I.	P. I.	P. I.	P. I.	P. I.	P. I.	P. I.	P. I.	P. I.	P. I.	P. I.
Length of school in weeks...	13 13	11 11	9 10 10	12 13 10	12 10 12	10 10 12	9 9 12	12 12						
Whole number of pupils...	91 58	37 39 33	54 53 43	19 15 31	9 26 10	50 52 33	22 24							
Males,.....	47 30	21 20 18	35 24 25	11 5 17	8 15 3	24 19 19	11 10							
Females,.....	44 23	16 19 15	19 34 18	8 10 14	1 11 7	26 33 14	11 14							
Average attendance...	80 54	28 30 24	44 52 40	17 10 26	8 24 9	4 46 2	18 20							
No. of pupils over 16 years	0 0	0 0 0	0 2 1	0 2 1	0 1 2	5 1 0	2 9 2							
No. of pupils under 16 years	91 58	37 39 33	54 56 31	17 15 30	7 21 9	50 52 31	13 22							
No. of tardy marks,.....	12 4	6 11 20	10 12 6	35 17 8	5 9 2	13 8 10	4 5 1							
No. not tardy,.....	76 54	34 31 21	44 48 41	10 10 26	7 19 8	41 47 25	20 6							
No. not absent one-half day.	9 23	11 4 2	10 4 12	3 3 5	5 13 0	11 25 2	3 1							
Whole number of visits...	74 65	105 78 23	105 168 85	46 20 48	24 38 31	37 41 45	52 30							
Visits by S. S. Committee..	7 6	5 4 6	6 6 4	3 2 4	2 2 3	5 5 3	2 2							
Visits by Prud Committee..	4 2	4 7 4	2 3 2	3 0 1	1 1 2	2 2 2	3 1 1							
Wages of teacher per month including board,.....	24 28	22 25 20	22 28 43	12 18 1	18 33 16	22 26 40	32 30							

NOTE.—In the above Tables the Fall Terms have been considered a part of the Summer Schools, and an approximate average made of the attendance of the two terms.

TABLE III.

Districts.	No. of Schol- ars in each District.	Proportion to each District.	Proportion to each Scholar.	Amount of Money raised.
Centre,....	237..	846 57..	3 15..	Raised by the Town,
1,.....	144..	520 54..	3 61..	\$3,786.00
2,.....	248..	880 99..	3 15..	Literary Fund,
3,.....	54..	203 96..	3 37..	305.70
4,.....	22..	103 83..	4 71..	\$4,091.70
5,.....	21..	100 75..	4 80..	75.00
6,.....	31..	131 99..	4 25..	For Schools,
7,.....	13..	72 75..	5 82..	\$4,016.70
8,.....	31..	131 99..	4 25..	Raised by Associat'd
9,.....	14..	78 75..	5 62..	Dist's for the High
10,.....	135..	492 35..	3 65..	School,
11,.....	55..	207 09..	3 76..	800.00
12,.....	20..	97 63..	4 88..	Rent of Building for
13,.....	35..	144 51..	4 13..	the use of the High
				School,
				250
				1,050.00
	1 060..	\$4016.00..	\$3.79..	\$5,141.70

TABLE IV.

<i>Districts.</i>	<i>Prudential Committees.</i>	<i>SUMMER SCHOOLS.</i>		<i>WINTER SCHOOLS.</i>	
		<i>Teachers.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Teachers.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Centre.	Augustus T. Wilder.	Miss Ellen R. Stone, Miss Martha A. Wheeler, Miss Annette J. French, Miss Bial W. Willard, Miss Lizzie S. Woodward, Miss Frances A. Chase, Miss Caroline Leavett, Miss Maria N. Messenger, Miss Irene A. Carpenter, Miss Sarah M. Woodward, Miss Helen M. Wheeler, Miss Mary S. Dickinson, Miss L. Jennie Kemp, Miss Mary S. Whitcomb, Miss Julia D. Godfrey, Miss Ella H. Gay, Miss Lois W. Leach, Miss Josephine Buxton, Miss Maria A. Holt, Miss Josephine A. Lees, Miss Sarah F. Beal, Miss Ellen M. Thompson, Miss Frances M. White, Miss Emily M. Nims.	Marlboro? Keene. Keene. Keene. Keene. Keene. Keene. Woburn, Ms. Stoddard. Keene. Keene. Keene. Keene. Sullivan. Swanzy. Keene. Swanzy, Westmoreland, Chesterfield. Keene. Winchendon, Ms Nelson. Keene. Westmoreland. Sullivan.	Miss Ellen R. Stone, Miss Martha A. Wheeler, Miss Ellen M. Taggard, Miss Frances A. Chase, Miss Helen M. Wheeler, Miss Mary S. Dickinson, Miss Sarah M. Woodward, Mr. George W. Britton, Miss Myra Lake, Miss Julia D. Godfrey, Miss Sarah R. Freeman, Miss Lois W. Leach, Mr. Hiram B. Ake, Miss Maria A. Holt, Miss Josephine A. Lees, Miss Sarah F. Beal, Mr. A. J. Blake, Mr. Julius E. Ruge, Mr. Albert F. Nims,	Marlboro? Keene. Nelson. Keene. Keene. Keene. Keene. Keene. Keene. Keene. Keene. Keene. Keene. Sury. Keene. Keene. Keene. Westmoreland. Rindge. Keene. Winchendon, Ms Nelson. Rindge. Rindge. Sullivan.
No. 1.	Ralph J. Holt,				
No. 2.	Wm. H. Thayer, F. F. Lane,				
No. 3.	Eugene S. Ellis.				
No. 4.	George Mansfield.				
No. 5.	John Towns.				
No. 6.	Elbridge Ingalls.				
No. 7.	Samuel B. Aldrich.				
No. 8.	Joseph Wheeler.				
No. 9.	Hosea Chase.				
No. 10.	Hosea Foster.				
No. 11.	Joshua Graves.				
No. 12.	David Woodward.				
No. 13.	Naham Wright.				

REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN OF KEENE,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1863.

Town Officers.

Paid N. N. Sawyer, Selectman, ending March 1, 1862,	250 00
" Geo. D. Dort, " "	150 00
" Chester Nims, " "	150 00
" Geo. H. Tilden, Town Clerk,	50 00
" F. A. Faulkner, Town Agent,	20 00
" R. H. Porter, Treasurer,	10 00
" H. W. Cooper, Police, 1861 & 2,	36 25
" George B. Twitchell, Moderator,	5 00
" J. F. Perry, Police, 1 year,	30 00
" A. S. Davis, " "	35 00
" S. O. Gates, " "	17 00
" W. S. Briggs, " "	20 00
" N. N. Sawyer, services as Selectman eighty-four days, 1862,	168 00
	<hr/>
	\$941 25

Keene Fire Department.

Paid Joseph P. Wells, services as Chief Engineer,	\$25 00
" " Refreshments at Miss Tyler's,	12 50

Paid Joseph P. Wells, Cleaning Reservoirs,	4 25
" " Trucking,	15
" " Examining fire districts,	20 00
" " Badges for Engineers,	7 00
" " Refreshments for the past year,	8 36
" " " Fire at Mr. Joslin's,	4 50
" " Expenses to Fitchburg,	3 75
" " One day's work,	1 50
" H. P. Muchmore, services as Engineer,	5 00
" E. Edwards, services as Engineer,	5 00
" Wm. L. Davis, services as Engineer,	5 00
" " Work on Reservoirs,	50
" George A. Balch, services as Engineer, 1861,	5 00
" Francis A. Perry, services as Engineer,	6 00
" " Refreshments—fire at Dr. Hatch's,	2 25
" Geo. Holmes & Bro., 2 Fire Hooks,	7 00
" " Repairing Hooks & Ladders,	4 50
" " Iron and chain for 2 Spreads,	3 00
" " Axe helve, work on axe, &c.,	1 00
" " Rope, Hook, and Splice Rod,	59
" " Hanging bell on Hook and Ladder Carriage,	1 50
" " Iron and repairing Hooks,	3 50
" " Trucking and repairing Lad- ders,	1 50
" " 1 Fire Hook,	5 00
" " Key and work on Neptune House,	1 34
" Solon S. Wilkinson, making new Pipe and repair- ing Hose and Pipe,	12 00
" " 1 dozen Hose Straps,	4 00
" " Splicing Hose and Repairing,	2 60
" O. G. Dort, Paper, Sweet Oil, Fluid, Alcohol, Sponges, &c., the past year,	10 20

Paid	O. G. Dort, Alcohol, Tripoli, Fluid, Castor Oil, &c.,	6 46
"	E. Holbrook, Refreshment at Fire, Aug. 5,	6 00
"	S. E. Hall, services as Steward,	6 25
"	" Work on old Engines,	50
"	Babbitt & Allen, services as Stewards,	25 00
"	" Watching fire Feb. 7th,	2 00
"	Isaac Sturtevant, Printing 700 Regulations,	6 00
"	Eunice Kingsbury, Washing and Repairing Uniforms,	8 50
"	S. B. Crossfield, Repairing Town Wells,	3 75
"	Abijah Wilder, Rent of Land for Deluge Engine House,	15 00
"	Samuel Nims, Ringing fire alarm,	6 75
"	E. Holbrook, Refreshments at a Fire,	3 46
"	H. Orrin French, Refreshments at a Fire,	4 43
"	Mr. Stone, Work on Reservoir,	1 00
"	Geo. D. Dort, Incidentals, Freight,	4 33
"	Deluge Engine Company, services,—40 men,	200 00
"	Neptune Engine Company, services,—35 men,	175 00
"	Hook and Ladder Company, services,—20 men,	100 00
"	Gas for Deluge Company,	8 40
"	G. & G. H. Tilden, Paper, &c.,	89
"	L. Martin, Horse Hire, 1861 and 1862,	23 25
"	Spaulding & Whitney, Horse Hire,	11 25
"	Holmes & Brother, Horse Carriage,	250 00
Amount Expended,		<hr/> \$1041 71
Money voted,		800 00
Money received for old Engines by vote of the Town,		101 53
		<hr/> \$901 53

The Fire Department, as you will see by the report, have expended a larger sum than the Town appropriated. We refer you to the expense of the new Hose Carriage. Had it not been for this item of expense the department would not have exceed-

ed the amount appropriated. We considered the purchasing of this necessary, as one of the old ones was rendered unfit for use while going to a fire on Court street, and the remaining ones were not sufficient to supply the needed amount of hose oftentimes at a fire. We recommend that a Hose Company be formed by the Department to take charge of the new Hose Carriage. We have had a number of fires the present year, which add to the expense of the Department. We would refer to the Chief Engineer's report. We would also recommend to the Engineers to let each Company furnish at fires their own refreshments, which we think would be more satisfactory to the men and less expensive to the Department. In no case have we heard complaints. The Department have performed promptly and faithfully all services required, and the citizens have cheerfully co-operated with the Department in time of need.

SCHOOLS, INCLUDING TAXES RAISED.

Paid High School Associated Districts,	1,735	11
Centre School District,—Tax assessed, \$80 00,	714	93
School District No. 1,	390	43
“ No. 2,—Tax ass'd, \$140.00,	800	75
“ No. 3,	203	96
“ No. 4,	103	83
“ No. 5,	100	75
“ No. 6,	131	99
“ No. 7,	75	72
“ No. 8,	131	99
“ No. 9,	78	75
“ No. 10,—Tax ass'd, \$110 00,	479	26
“ No. 11,	207	09
“ No. 12,	97	63
“ No. 13,	144	51
George Tilden, Superintending School Committee,	25	00
William H. Thayer, “ “ “	25	00
Geo. A. Wheelock, “ “ “	25	00

\$5,471 70

Amount raised by the Town,	3,786 00
“ “ by High School,	1,050 00
“ voted by Centre District,	80 00
“ “ by District No. 2,	140 00
“ “ by District No. 10,	110 00
Literary Fund,	305 70
	<hr/>
	\$5,471 70
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The Town voted at its last annual meeting to divide the School Money as follows, viz:—To give to each School in each District the sum of thirty-five dollars, and the remainder of the money to be divided by the scholar. The past year there were two Districts with three Schools each, and two with two Schools each; the remaining Districts had but one School.

Jail Fees and Board of Police Prisoners.

Whole amount of Expenditures,	\$34 76
Number Committed,	27
Males,	25
Foreigners,	14
Non-residents,	14

The causes for imprisonment were mostly on account of drunkenness and disturbances. The services of our Police force have been required more than usual, and the expenses somewhat increased. We express the opinion that all good citizens appreciate our efficient Police.

Land Damages for New Roads.

Paid William Dinsmoor for Land Damages of Ruel Blake,	200 00
Paid W. D. Ballou Land Damages and costs on the Extension of Church street,	223 96
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	\$423 96

We have had two cases of this kind. The first was that of the extension of Church street through W. D. Ballou's land, laid out in 1859 and built in 1860. The Selectmen awarded him \$1 damage. That was not satisfactory to him, and he appealed to the Commissioners. We tried to settle with him. He offered to settle for \$150. We chose to have the Commissioners settle it. After two day's hearing they decided to be more liberal than Mr. Ballou himself, and awarded him \$175. That with the cost amounted to over \$223.

The other was that of the extension of Pearl street through land of Ruel Blake, laid out in 1860, and built in 1861. The Selectmen awarded Mr. Blake \$60. He was not satisfied with that. After the road was built it was ascertained that the award was illegal. He claimed \$250. We found that we could settle for \$200. We thought we had better pay it, as the Commissioners would probably give him \$275.

Insufficiency of Highways.

Paid E. Morrill,	35 00
" Miss Allen,	32 50
	<hr/>
	\$67 50

These two cases for which the Town has been liable, occurred one last spring near David Hutchins, by the bad state of the road caused by the large amount of snow; and the other occurred in the west part of the Town by the breaking through of an old wooden culvert.

Lighting Street Lamps and Gas.

Paid for lighting Street Lamps and Gas,	\$352 57
Money voted,	\$350 00

Highways and Bridges, 1861.

Paid Wm. Tenny for Gravel,	\$10 00
Jarib S. Herrick, Work on Highway.	13 00
Daniel Darling, " "	11 00
Wm. H. Woodward, " "	9 25

Paid Amos Howard, Work on Highway,	4 72
Geo. K. Wright, " "	6 00
Jacob Staples, " "	18 75
Albert E. Pond, " "	8 75
Francis E. Newcomb, " " for 3 years,	11 75
John Lawrence, " "	2 50
Miles S. Buckminster, " "	9 00
Eugene S. Ellis, " "	8 00
Chester Nims, " "	50
Luther Nurse, " "	4 00
King B. Chapman, " "	4 00
Charles Eveleth, " "	3 83
Joseph Brown, " "	2 00
James Wright, " "	9 75
Charles Heaton, " "	17 50
George Pierce, Jr., " "	3 75
Horace L. Goodnow, " "	9 50
T. T. Russell, " "	6 25
E. Livermore, " "	5 50
Noah Blodgett, " "	1 25
	<hr/>
	\$180 55

Highways and Bridges, ending March 1, 1863.

Paid Benj. F. Foster, for Work on Highway,	46 00
George Pierce, Jr., " "	29 13
John Lawrence, " "	30 11
Joshua Graves, " "	86 89
David Baker, " "	21 90
Chester Nims, " "	9 25
Mason Guillo, for Bridge Plank,	49 03
L. M. Parker, for Building Bridge,	27 64
Barney Griffith, for Work on Highway,	32 45
John W. Nye, " "	9 00
George Mansfield, " "	38 00
S. B. Crossfield, for altering Bridge at So. Keene,	262 50

Paid Albert Wright, for Work on Highway,	30 00
Charles W. Wyman " "	64 75
Alexander Grimes, " "	4 00
John Ellis, for Work on Highway and Bridge,	37 00
Luther K. Wright, " "	3 12
C. & C. Mason, " "	408 37
Isaac Rand, for Sand,	5 92
Charles K. Colony, for Work on Highway,	33 57
George W. Sturtevant, for Surveying,	2 00
King B. Chapman, for Work on Highway,	15 50
Charles Eveleth, " "	38 75
Lucius F. Goodnow, " "	23 25
Daniel Goodnow, " "	9 39
Isaiah Robbins, " "	25 00
Andrew H. Towns, " "	37 04
Asa Cole, " "	59 90
Thomas O'Doil, for Sand,	8 19
Sylvester Nurse, for Work on Highway,	4 00
Elbridge H. Ingalls, " "	30 00
Charles Wright, " "	35 00
James Dodge, " "	6 96
Ephraim F. Towns, " "	14 00
Henry Pond, Sand,	23 60
Lewis Craig, for Work on Highway,	4 25
Nelson N. Sawyer, Bill for Work on Highway,	11 85
Horace Hamblet, " "	35 00
George K. Wright, " "	35 90
William O. White, for Sand,	8 00
T. S. Richardson, for Work on Highway,	4 00
Joseph W. Raymond " "	
and Timber,	4 00
Faulkner & Colony, for Lumber, Highway,	100 78
George D. Dort, for Work on Highway,	50
Chase & Fairbanks, for Lumber, Bridges,	18 84
Daniel Thompson, for Work and Sand,	7 00

Charles Sherman,	"	6 12
Chauncey B. Billings,	"	8 75
C. & C. Mason,	"	32 24
A. T. Wilder,	"	9 25
Charles Fish,	"	8 00
Thomas T. Russell, Jr.,	"	39 75
		<hr/>
		\$1895 44
Paid for Highways in 1861,		180 55
" " 1862,		1895 44
		<hr/>
		\$2075 99
Amount raised for repairs,		\$2500 00
		<hr/>
Amount now on hand,		\$424 01

In closing the report on highways and bridges it will be seen that we have not expended the amount raised by the Town, after paying the large amount of claims for breaking out the roads for 1861, and repairing the damage caused by the freshet last spring, on West, Pearl, Main, and Church streets, and on the Marlboro' road above South Keene, and other parts of the Town; and altering the covered bridge at South Keene, and repairing the numerous bridges. We had but a small amount for ordinary repairs. We did not think it best to make any large outlays in any locality, but to keep them in a good and safe condition; and they were, throughout the Town, last fall, notwithstanding, after the heavy rains in the first part of the winter, some of the good people on West street put up an advertisement in the post-office for a large lot of logs to cause-way said street.

We contracted with S. B. Crossfield to drop the traveled part of the covered bridge at South Keene about twenty-two inches, by bolting the ties under the stringers, and new plank-

ing, and grading, and repairing the railing at each end, for two hundred and sixty-two dollars and fifty cents—and we have the satisfaction of knowing that the public are satisfied with the alteration.

There was a stone culvert on West street near the Covered Bridge about four feet square. It was too small to let all the water through. Last spring it made a break in the road, and washed away about fifteen feet wide and six feet deep the whole width of the road. We moved one of the abutments out to the width of twelve feet and covered the whole with wood. We think it now large enough to let all the water through that will be likely to come there.

We had to take up another stone culvert on Pearl street and build it larger. We have put on part new stringers and new plank on the bridge over Beaver Brook, on Main street. It is now in good condition. We have put on part new stringers on the bridge over the Branch near Tenney's Mill. It will want new plank soon. We have put new plank on the bridge over Beaver Brook near Spaulding's Mills. There ought to be part new stringers next year, and the whole raised up, as the sand washes on to it as it now is. We have had to plank and repair numerous other bridges, as you will see by the large amount paid for plank, in the report. The bridge over Beaver Brook near Mr. Bemis' is in a bad condition and will need looking after in the spring. The one on Marlboro' street is getting old and is too narrow and low. We think it would be for the credit of the Town to have a better one. The stone bridge near Charles Chase's will need looking after early in the spring, as the water is washing under the abutments. There are some bridges in the west part of the Town that will want looking after early in the spring. We have endeavored to keep the highways in a good condition throughout the Town, with the least possible expense. What money we have expended, we think has been faithfully and economically laid out by most of the surveyors.

REPORT OF THE OVERSEER OF THE POOR.

RECEIPTS.

Rec'd Town Orders,	694 77
County, April Term,	608 34
" Oct. "	647 42
Aid for Soldiers' Families,	14 00
	<hr/>
	\$1964 53

EXPENDITURES.

Paid for County Paupers,	774 11
Town,	481 92
Expenses at the Farm, (including Mr. Leach's salary one year—\$250 00,)	708 50
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	\$1964 53

The Overseer found it necessary to make a change in the Agent on the Town Farm, and accordingly made a contract with Mr Charles Fish, for one year for \$225. He moved on to the place the first of April, and on looking over the property there, found a great falling off in grains, provisions, &c., for one month's consumption; also, bedding and other articles, as reported by the Selectmen, March 1st, 1862. Also, thought it would be economy in the Town to keep the house painted inside which was done, and some papering. Also, the building of a shed for housing tools, &c., all of which goes to make the expenditure at the farm larger than usual. I have bound out five children that were supported two by the Town and three by the County.

Finding I could not devote so much time from my business as ought to be given to it, I thought it best to resign, and did so, taking effect Nov. 1st.

For the items in the above sums see Mr. Wilder's report.

ARBA KIDDER.

We have examined the above account and find it correct so far as we can discern.

R. STEWART,

W. S. BRIGGS,

STEPHEN BARKER,

Auditing Committee.

County Paupers.

PAID.

George Willard, for the support of Abby Howe,	91 00
W. S. Briggs' bill,	12 50
Lewis Pemberton, for support Dean child,	54 65
Barney Griffith, for Delay children,	53 00
George Peasley, for support of Belle Martin's child,	32 80
Mrs. Cummings, for Naomi Smith,	89 25
Mrs. Lines, for rent,	26 66
A. F. Maynard for Washburn girls,	4 00
Alex Grimes, for support of Kenny,	26 00
E. Livermore, for Wood,	7 25
Shelly & Sawyer, bill of Goods,	15 87
Dr. A. S. Carpenter, bill,	20 25
C. & C. Mason, bill, Wood,	36 10
S. Raymond, " "	55 50
Expense of Ellis boy to Nebraska,	13 30
D. Woodward, for Wood,	2 12
N. H. Insane Asylum, for Fanny Brown,	86 65
Expense of F. Brown to Concord,	13 35
" Sally Paul,	9 75
Freeman & Grimes, Bill, Goods,	154 37
C. Bridgman, " "	162 71
E., C. & F. E. Keyes, "	20 00
James Wright, " Wood,	17 48
Bancroft's, " Meat.	5 25
Wm. French, " Goods,	81 36
Mrs. Roach, Goods, &c.,	14 35
Mr. Simonds, for Work done,	4 50
Mr. Fuller, for Goods,	9 25
George Hamblet, for Wood,	1 00
H. Foster, services as Sexton,	2 00
Dr. Johnson, bill,	17 50
Spaulding & Whitney, Horse Hire,	5 00
Dr. Twitchell, bill,	37 75

Mr. Reed, for Trucking Wood,	75
John DeMore, to Goods,	1 77
Dora McDonald, to Goods,	4 28
Mrs. Taylor, Rent, &c.,	4 50
Taft, Milk bill,	4 05
Winchester Reed, for support,	8 00
Mrs. C. Beals,	5 00
R. Taylor, for Rent, &c.,	28 06
S. L. Randall, for Goods,	7 50
Mrs. Fifield,	1 00
C. R. Read,	5 48
Transient,	36 51
G. & G. H. Tilden, for Books, etc.,	9 64
S. Heaton, for Wood,	3 50
Taft, Milk bill,	3 50
Dr. Kittridge, bill,	16 00

\$1328 15

Town Paupers.

PAID.

C. R. Reed, Madison child,	70
Expenses of Mundell boy to Nebraska,	13 30
Crown children,	4 48
E., C. & F. E. Keyes, bill for Goods,	52 45
C. Bridgman, " " "	58 87
E. Livermore, for Wood,	1 87
S. Hardy, for affidavits,	3 67
Spaulding & Whitney, Horse Hire,	3 00
D. Marsh, for Clothing,	7 35
G. & G. H. Tilden, Books for Bates boy,	30
S. Raymond, for Wood,	6 10
E. Holman, for sawing Wood for Ruffle,	2 50
Stamps, etc.,	1 07
C. & C. Mason, for Wood,	10 00
Dr. Carpenter, bill,	15 00

Dr. Webster, "	40 38
Wm. French, "[19 73
Cummings, for Rent of House for Ruffle,	7 50
" For Meat for Ruffle,	90
H. Taft, Milk bill,	2 95
Dr. Kittridge, bill,	26 25
Levi Page, support of Timothy Ellis' children,	108 00
George B. Twitchell, bill,	38 00
Josiah Grimes, support of Madison child,	28 50
Mrs. James Bates,	36 03
Joseph Tolman, for the support of Mrs. Tolman,	25 00
Edmund Woodward, for support of Philander Pond,	33 00
Town of Stoddard, for George Tufts,	29 00
For William Ruffle, bills,	127 07
N. H. Insane Asylum, for support of Mary C. Wyman,	126 88
Hosea Foster, services as Sexton,	4 50
Mrs. Lawrence Crowley, Goods, etc.,	45 42
Mrs. S. Bryant, for support of C. Bryant,	68 00
Wm. Baker for Miss Baker's support,	56 14
Dr. Webster, bill,	7 50
Buffum's bill for clothing Bates boy,	2 38
H. Taft, Milk bill, for L. Crowley,	2 38
Mrs. Fitch, Goods,	6 66
W. S. Briggs, bill for Coffins, Robes, etc.,	14 00
Shelly & Sawyer, bill, Goods,	11 99
	<hr/>
	\$1051 36
N. N. Sawyer's bill,	14 22
	<hr/>
	\$1065 58

Town Farm.

PAID.

Leach, on Settlement,	24 30
" For Services,	250 00
Gerould & Son, bill for Goods,	63 25

Beal & Co.,	“	“	90 67
E. Blake for Beef,			9 72
E. Livermore, 1 Cow,			33 00
Wright & Seward, for Pork,			19 24
1 Pig,			3 25
2 Bedquilts,			6 00
S. Esty, for Pasturing Ox,			3 80
C. Bridgman, bill, Groceries,			188 48
C. Fish, for Services,			107 70
Cummings, bill for Meat,			54 76
Wm. S. Briggs, for Paint, etc,			20 42
Hayward, for Bread,			5 25
“	“	“ Last Year,	3 00
Jacob Green, for Medicines, Last Year,			5 49
Hale & Co., for Sentinel,			1 00
O. G. Dort, bill for Medicine,			19 98
S. L. Randall, & Co, Goods,			22 13
Ball & Alden, Buffalo Robe, .			11 00
Hutchins, bill, Goods,			8 82
W. O. Wilson,	“		5 41
Harris & Wetherbee, Medicine, last year,			1 59
Gillett, bill, Goods,			16 77
H. Cooper, for Work on Pump,			3 00
C. W. Heaton, 1 pr. Oxen,			125 00
Freeman & Grimes, bill, Flour, Meal, etc.,			301 30
L. P. Dean, bill, Work Shoeing, etc.,			13 11
Locke, bill for Goods,			16 92
Incidentals,			4 02
Faulkner & Colony, bill, Lumber,			9 60
Elliot & Ripley,	“	Goods,	1 96
Alcohol,			15 00
			<hr/>
			\$1464 00
<i>Amount Received from Farm.</i>			
1 pr. Oxen,			94 64
3 Calves,			12 30

34 1-3 bush. Oats,	17 85
1 Calf Skin,	95
1 Ox Hide,	4 96
2 Cow's Hides,	11 02
Cider,	14 77
Old Copper, Stoves, and Old Iron,	8 93
Work on Highway,	8 00

\$173 42

Lumber, Paint, Copper, and work on Shed and House, \$57 00

Paid for Town Farm,	1464 54
County Paupers,	1328 15
Town " "	1065 58
Jail Fees and Board,	34 76

Paid for Support of Paupers, \$3893 03

Amount Raised by the Town,	1200 00
" Rec'd of the County,	1255 76
" " Aid of Soldiers' Families,	14 00
" " Town Farm,	173 42

\$2643 18

The Pauper Account, as you will see, has been necessarily increased, and has required a larger amount of money than was appropriated by the Town. At the Farm there have been no deaths; and but two have died who have been helped by the Town. There are now at the Town Farm twenty—five are a County charge. Out of Town we are assisting, one at Sullivan, who is sick; one at Hinsdale, and one at the N. H. Asylum. The expense is much less than we could support them at the Farm, except the one at the Insane Asylum. There are quite a number of cases where we have paid small sums in Town, which is done much cheaper than could be at the Farm, and the Farm is mostly taken up. The case of William

Ruffle was quite expensive to the Town till his family was removed to the Farm, which I did as soon as could be with safety. Of the County paupers there are a large number, mostly foreigners, and they are very poor. I have before assisting them, in most cases, visited them to ascertain, if possible, their condition, and have endeavored to do justice to them and the Town. The health of those at the Farm, with the exception of two or three, is quite good. I cannot close this report without alluding to the Agent, Mr. Charles Fish and Wife, who have managed the affairs of the Farm and the family for the past year. I think every one who has been in the habit of going to the Farm and House cannot but see a great and healthy change in every department. There now seems to be "a place for everything and everything in its place," and everything evinces industry and careful attention to the interests of the Town. I found the stock at the Farm of a poor order. The oxen I have disposed of—one was only fit for the crows. I disposed of him at once. I have purchased a pair which will do work and be of credit to the Farm. The cows, what are not blind, are not the best. I would recommend that good ones be purchased, when needed, for it costs no more to keep good cows than poor. The horse is old, small and of little use. I would recommend the selling and purchasing of a good one "that can wade in and be of some service." The barn will need repairing this season, as it has already begun to fall to the ground.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

A. T. WILDER, Overseer of the Poor.

Having examined the foregoing statements, we find them correctly cast. We have also compared the Treasurer's accounts with the same, and find them to agree, and we believe the accounts are well and truly kept

GEO. D. DORT,

CHESTER NIMS,

Selectmen of Keene.

Property at the Town Farm.

1 pr. Oxen, 6 Cows, 2 Heifers, 1 Horse,	337 00
12 tons Hay, 120; 1-2 Straw, 3,	123 00
Corn, Oats and Barley,	36 50
2 Shotes, 13 Hens, 4 Turkeys,	38 30
1 ox-Cart, 1 lumber Sleigh, 1 buggy Wagon, 1 L. Sleigh,	95 00
3 Plows, 2 Shovels, 4 Hoes,	10 00
2 Grain Cradles, 1 Straw Cutter,	9 00
5 stake and 3 draft Chains,	5 00
7 Rakes, 3 Scythes and Snaths,	4 00
1 ox-Yoke, 1 Stone Drag, Drag Plank,	5 00
1 Harrow, 1 Cultivator, 1 Pick, etc.,	7 00
2 Crowbars, 2 Harnesses, 2 Robes,	29 00
6 Meal Bags, 1 Fan Mill,	11 20
2 Forks, 1 Wheelbarrow, 3 Baskets,	2 75
100 sap Buckets, 2 sap Tubs, 1 sap Pan,	13 00
3 wood Saws and cross-cut Saw,	5 50
3 Axes, 6 Augers,	5 00
38 cords Wood,	125 00
1 scalding Tub, and 1 set Measures,	1 75
2 Brass and 2 Iron Kettles,	7 00
30 Chairs,	5 70
7 Tables, 9 chests Drawers,	12 50
Beds, Bedding, and Bedsteads,	120 00
3 Looking Glasses, 1 brass Clock,	4 00
4 Tubs, 1 Churn, 1 Lantern,	7 12
Glass, Tin, and Wood Ware,	5 66
Cutlery, Crockery and Spoons,	15 72
7 Stoves, tea Kettle, etc.,	33 90
6 barrels salt Pork and Beef,	110 00
2 1-4 bushels Beans and Peas,	5 62
85 bushels Potatoes,	38 25
3 1-2 barrels Vinegar,	15 00
14 Cider and Meat barrels,	9 00

2 gallons Molasses,	84
Flour, Sugar and Tea,	12 00
Lard, Butter and Cheese,	31 00
Pickles and Garden Seeds,	2 00
2 Lightstands,	75
1 Settee,	50
1 Cheese Press,	5 00
2 barrels Soap,	8 00
2 " Apples,	3 00
1 " Cider,	6 00
6 bushels Vegetables,	1 80
Boiled Cider,	1 20
Soap Grease, and Tallow,	17 00
Dried Apple,	10 80
3 pounds Tobacco,	2 10
1 bag Salt and 2 Meal,	4 60
2 prs. Steelyards, 1 pr. Sickle Shears,	2 00
1 Square, 1 Saw, 1 Grindstone,	1 75
1 string Sleigh Bells, 3 Manure Forks,	2 75
2 Whips,	1 50
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Whole amount March 1, 1863,	\$1367 07
Amount March 1, 1862,	\$1159 50

Bounties of Volunteers.

We have paid bounties to the following volunteers, who have been mustered into the U. S. service, agreeably to a vote passed by the Town, August 2, and September 6, 1862:—

NAMES.	AMOUNT PAID	NAMES.	AMOUNT PAID.
S. H. Perry,	\$150	A. A. Craig, (2d Reg't)	150
Martin Flynn,	150	George H. Gilmore,	150
Wm. H. Barber, (6th Reg't)	150	Joseph Jolly,	150

N. B. Chamberlain,	150	Calvin K. Day,	150
Jesse Heon,	50	Lucius S. Willard,	150
Isaac Jolly,	150	Joseph S. Doolittle,	150
William H. Hartwell,	150	Asa W. Davis,	150
Michael Sullivan,	150	James W. Russell,	150
William H. Rand,	150	William A. Barrett,	150
Joseph S. Craig,	150	E. F. Putnam,	150
Edmund J. Perham,	150	Royal W. Smith,	150
G. D. Fox,	150	William H. Lewis,	150
George E. Hastings,	150	Marcus M. Smith,	150
W. W. Ross,	150	Sylvester Blodgett,	150
W. R. Ellis,	150	David Sumner,	150
Frank Belville,	150	Frank Evans, Jr.,	150
Truman S. Fellows,	150	Albert Cooper,	150
Lucian B. Fellows,	150	Otto Lettenmayer,	150
S. H. Sprague,	150	Michael Riley,	150
J. H. Matthews,	150	Patrick Burns,	150
James Slyfield,	150	Martin Riley,	150
Charles E. Rugg,	150	John W. Sturtevant,	150
Edward Morris,	150	John Casey,	150
Minot Ellis,	150	Solon A. Carter,	150
Albert R. Wheeler,	50	George Kehue,	150
George R. McCluer,	150	William Parker,	150
Simeon A. Mason,	150	Edwin Marvin,	150
Joseph W. Pierce,	150	Frederick Stick,	150
Moses Mason,	150	John Ryan,	150
E. M. Messenger,	150	Sylvester Jones,	150
Charles H. Knight,	150	Boardwin Brown,	150
Charles D. Chase,	150	Lyman Ellis,	150
William S. Ormsby,	150	George D. Richardson,	150
Frank J. Leverett,	150	Charles W. Wheeler,	150
Elisha Ayer,	150	Franklin Slyfield,	150
Charles W. Wilcox,	150	James Leach,	150
Alfred Chase,	150	Darwin C. Coats,	150
William F. Metcalf,	150	Daniel Slyfield,	150
Lewis D. Darling,	150	William Smith,	150
Charles E. Towns,	150	Hiram Barden, Jr.,	150
Henry E. Hubbard,	150	Joseph W. Cummings,	150
N. N. Sawyer,	150	Ira B. Holman,	150
Jacob Green,	150	Ambrose W. Howard,	150
John W. Babbitt,	150	Jeremiah Lyford, Jr.,	150
<i>14th Regiment, enlisted</i>		Dauphin Spaulding,	150
<i>September, 1862.</i>		John A. Parker,	150
William S. Drake,	150	James Totten,	150
John A. Woodward,	150	Emery Hastings,	150
Julius A. Houston,	150	Cyrus H. Thompson,	150

J. Henry Jenks,	150	George A. Day,	150
Adelbert A. Houghton,	150	Jesse Willson,	150
Benj. W. Byam,	150	Lucian O. Lincoln,	150
Perley S. Balch,	150	Charles H. Hill,	150
Edmund Blodgett,	150	E. Tyler Greenwood,	150
Luther M. Parker,	150	Charles Knowlton,	150
Theodore Bolio,	150	Frank G. Benton,	150
William H. Thayer,	150	Charles E. Brock,	150
George B. Twitchell,	150	David L. Richardson,	150
Ira Berry, Jr.,	150	Noble T. Dunn,	150
George H. Carroll,	150	Henry M. Staples,	150
Francis Gallagher,	150	Michael Gorman,	150

Whole amount paid, \$17,800

Whole number who have received, 120

“ “ “ “ volunteered, 321

Soldier's Relief Committee.

The following sums have been paid by the Selectmen from April 1, 1862 to April 1, 1863, to the families of Soldiers who have been mustered into the United States service:

Mrs. C. Pressler,	60	Mrs. C. H. Blake,	72
S. Ruffle,	48	C. Nye,	96
A. Salter,	48	W. Howard,	96
W. Eastman,	24	J. R. Bromley,	96
C. Austin,	48	I. P. McMaster,	96
W. Wilber,	24	A. S. Bradford,	24
E. Kilburn,	48	J. S. Starkey,	96
M. Mason,	30	J. W. Pierce,	60
G. E. Hastings,	46	E. Morrows,	60
F. W. Bates,	31	E. Ayer,	60
Geo. F. Russell,	4	T. S. Fellows,	60
W. S. Drake,	25	F. Belville,	70
A. W. Davis,	25	H. Barden, Jr.,	50
C. K. Day,	25	A. W. Howard,	50
W. Smith,	25	J. Lyford, Jr.,	50
W. Lang,	28	J. S. Doolittle,	50
G. E. Handy,	28	J. W. Russell,	33
A. DeMoor,	20	E. F. Putnum,	64
B. Brown,	24	W. H. Lewis,	50
M. Gorman,	24	J. Cacy,	58 50
D. L. Richardson,	24	N. T. Dunn,	50
E. F. Greenwood,	25	J. Leach,	55
W. A. Hustis,	4	R. W. Smith,	50
W. S. Rahn,	96	A. H. Barton,	48
L. T. Howe	32	W. H. Perry,	44

S. Jones,	48	G. Kehue, Jr.,	75
G. A. Day,	48	D. C. Ellis,	12
L. Ellis,	40	J. W. Cummings,	75
H. G. Holton,	144	M. W. Clark,	168
E. R. Wyman,	144	W. C. Wheeler,	84
J. Calef,	144	R. Atwood,	168
G. W. Phelps,	144	S. C. Richardson,	138
D. Sumner,	99	H. A. Thompson,	168
A. Houghton,	136	A. J. Crown,	98
W. K. Crossfield,	44	J. R. Brown,	168
H. Towns,	144	W. Rahn,	168
B. F. Clement,	132	S. Ruffle,	168
G. W. Marsh,	144	S. A. Mason,	105
T. Carroll,	100	M. Sullivan,	99
R. H. Crafford,	144	J. Jolly,	105
W. Dunlap,	144	W. R. Ellis,	94
H. Joslin,	144	A. A. Craig,	105
C. Clary,	104	D. Spaulding, 2d,	73 50
D. C. Coats,	75	C. H. Thompson,	87 50
I. B. Holman,	75	E. Blodgett,	87 50
E. Hastings,	75	L. M. Parker,	87 50
P. S. Balch,	75	F. Galigan,	87 50
T. Bolio,	75	M. H. Riley,	87 50
J. A. Houston,	75	P. Burns,	73 50
S. Blodgett,	75	J. A. Parker,	87 50
F. Steck,	75	O. Lettenmayer,	87 50
J. Ryan,	75	G. H. Carroll,	87 50
F. Slyfield,	75	W. A. Barrett,	87 50
J. H. Jenks,	72	C. H. Hill,	84
B. W. Byam,	75		

Whole amount paid,	\$8292 50
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The amount raised by the Town is	\$3000 00
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Received of State,	3113 48
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	\$6113 48
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Excess of Expenditures,	\$2179 02
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At the annual meeting it was voted that the Selectmen constitute the committee to appropriate money, to wit:—To the families or dependents of such inhabitants who have been, or may hereafter be mustered into the service of the United States, the sum of \$1 per week for each wife, child, or parent dependent upon him for support

at the time of his enlistment, provided the sum shall not exceed \$14 per month. The estimated expense by the Selectmen was what they were paying at that time—\$404 per month—and as the State was to reimburse some \$3000, the Town only voted to appropriate \$3000, which, had it not been for the call of the government for more men, the appropriation and the money paid by the State would have been more than enough to have paid. But on account of increase of numbers, the money paid far exceeds the amount appropriated and received. But, after taking advice and counsel, we did not hesitate to borrow and pay all, knowing, as we did, that the most of it would be paid back by the State. We have paid in the afternoon of the first day of each month, and one month in advance. We have now paid to the first of April. We think but few comparatively, of the large number who have received this money, have squandered it away, but have used it for their support—the object for which it was designed. We have endeavored to pay all who had a claim impartially, and with few exceptions have paid all who have called for it.

ESTIMATED EXPENSES FOR 1863.

Ordinary Town Charges	1500 00
Highways and Bridges,	2500 00
Support of Paupers,	1600 00
Fire Department,	850 00
Relief of Soldiers' Families,	5000 00
Gas and Lighting Street Lamps,	350 00
For Schools will be,	3786 00
Interest on Town Debt,	1964 13

In making these estimates it will be seen that they are larger than last year. The Town Charges will be sufficient. Highways and Bridges we think will be sufficient, if there are no unusual outlays. The Pauper estimate is not so much as has been expended the past year—we think it will be sufficient. We made out our claim against the State for the relief of soldiers' families up to June last. The whole amount paid up to that time was \$3608.60. The State paid us \$3113.48. It will be seen that there are now ten months due from the State. The Town will probably get between six and

seven thousand dollars in July or August. There will have to be money raised in some way to pay them up to that time. It is impossible to say how much, as some of them come home discharged for disability who are entitled to eight dollars per month for six months, by a law passed last June; also, the families of those who have died in the service. We think the sum we have estimated, with what the Town will receive from the State, will be sufficient if the Town pay the same as they are now paying. The sum to pay the interest on the debt, is just the amount of interest on the whole debt, including the Ministerial and Simmons fund.

Report of Agent Town Hall Building.

To the Selectmen of the Town of Keene:—The undersigned respectfully submits the following statement of receipts and expenditures by him as Agent in charge of the Town Hall, from the time of his appointment to date, viz:—

RECEIPTS.

Received for Rent of four stores 9 months,	411 00
" From Musical Institute, use of Hall,	25 00
" " Universalist Society, use of Hall,	57 00
" " " " Levee,	12 00
" For use of Hall for Lectures, Concerts, &c.,	55 00
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	\$560 00

EXPENDITURES.

Paid for Gas,	31 30
" For Firewood,	18 18
" For sawing and piling Wood,	2 77
" A. Davis, for Stove,	20 68
" For Broom, Lamp, Pitcher, Tumbler, and Gas-fork,	2 17
" For Repairs of Hall and Building,	40 01
" Care of Stores,	12 00
" Cleaning, Lighting and Care of Hall,	85 50
" Town Treasurer,	347 39
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	\$560 00

The following sums are now due from various individuals for use

of the Town Hall, viz :

From Lecture Committee,	21 00
For Political Meetings, Exhibitions, &c.,	43 00
From Universalist Society,	26 00
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	\$90 00

And on the first of next April there will be due in addition to the foregoing :

For Rent of Stores,	137 00
For use of Hall by Universalist Society,	26 00
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	\$163 00

Keene, Feb. 28, 1863.

S. WHITE, Agent.

We, the undersigned, have examined the foregoing statements and accounts, find them correctly cast, and we believe the accounts are well and truly kept.

A. T. WILDER,
GEO. D. DORT,
CHESTER NIMS,
Selectmen of Keene.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid Shelly & Sawyer, rent of Room—Police Court,	50 00
I. Sturtevant for printing 1200 Reports of Select-	
men,	80 00
“ For Check List,	5 00
“ For Police Laws,	4 00
W. S. Briggs, Auditing Committee,	3 00
Chester Nims, for ordinary,	63
George Tilden, for making Savings Bank Return,	4 00
Henry H. Wilcox, for repairing Hearse, last year,	9 00
R. J. Holt, abatements for Taxes, 1857,	15 31
George W. Sturtevant for making out Militia Roll,	3 00
Chester Nims, for expenses to Concord to pay	
Bounty to Soldiers,	10 00
N. N. Sawyer, for ordinary,	99
Perley Eveleth, for error in Tax, 1859,	7 92
F. A. Faulkner, for Term Fee on W. D. Ballou's	
Appeal,	5 00

F. A. Faulkner, for services on Gassett vs Kimm,	3 00
Geo. D. Dort, ordinary,	78
Spaulding & Whitney, Horse Hire,	3 00
David Hutchins, storing Liquor,	7 50
David L. Hunt, Horse Hire,	16 00
G. & G. H. Tilden, bills for Blank Books, Stationery, warning Jurors, &c.,	34 27
T. Hale & Co., bills, Printing,	25 25
A. T. Wilder, for ordinary,	24 29
S. White, collecting Taxes,	150 00
For 1 Revenue Stamp,	1 00
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	\$462 84

DEBT OF THE TOWN.

Notes at Savings Bank,	21,900 00
“ Perley Eveleth,	1000 00
“ Luther Wright,	2000 00
“ Geo. H. Richards,	1000 00
“ Charity Wright,	1300 00
“ Jeremiah Draper,	1000 00
“ Betsy Chapman,	1000 00
“ Simmons Fund,	1000 00
Ministerial Fund,	2835 66
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	\$33,035 66

NOTES DUE TOWN.

Charles Chase,	594 00
William Brown,	65 00
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	\$659 00

RECAPITULATION.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in Treasury, March 1, 1862,	2445 08
Rec'd of State Treasurer, Receipt,	1514 40
County, “ “	2733 86

Support of County Paupers, April Term, '62,	608 34
" " " " Oct. " '62,	647 42
For Showman's License,	30 00
For Stock, Town Farm,	173 42
Liquor,	15 00
Of Shubael White, rents, Town Hall Building,	347 40
Literary Fund,	292 41
Of Money Borrowed,	18,300 00
Of Collector,	15,024 99
Of State, Railroad Tax,	841 52
Of D. N. Wright, balance of Rents due, Town Hall Building,	276 15
Of Police Justice, balance of Fees,	18 00
Of Charles Chase on Ministerial Note,	400 84
For old Engines Sold,	101 53
" Police Table,	7 00
Of Collector, last year,	908 11
For Soldiers' Aid Fund, of State,	3113 48
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	\$47,798 95

EXPENDITURES.

For Town Farm,	1464 54
" Paupers,	1328 15
County,	1065 58
Jail Fees and Board,	34 76
Lighting Street Lamps and Gas,	352 57
Bounty to Volunteers,	17,800 00
Relief of Soldiers' Families,	8308 50
Town Officers,	1016 25
State Tax as per receipt,	1514 46
County, " " "	2733 86
Fire Department,	1047 06
Repairs of Highways and Bridges, 1861,	180 55
" " " " " 1862,	1851 19
Land Damages, 1859 and 1860,	423 96

Insufficiencies of Highways,	67 50
Schools,	5066 70
Interest on Town Note,	845 78
For Collecting Taxes,	150 00
School House Tax in Centre District,	80 00
" " " No. 3 "	140 00
" " " No. 4 "	110 00
Benjamin Pierce, Note and Interest,	725 90
Savings Bank Note,	48 20
Simmons Fund, Expended,	46 00
Miscellaneous,	462 94
Balance in Treasury,	1132 20

\$47,996 59

The undersigned, Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer, have attended to the duty assigned them, and find the accounts well and truly vouched for, and according to our belief, the foregoing statement is correct.

W. S. BRIGGS,
STEPHEN BARKER,
Auditing Committee.

Keene, March 5, 1863.

In the hurry of making up our report, we make the expenses exceed the receipts. At the close we find some errors as you will perceive they do not all agree with the recapitulation. One or two orders have been given that have not been paid by the Treasurer. The increase of families of soldiers, the paying of bounties, and the enrollment of the militia, have aided to increase our labors and liberalities.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

A. T. WILDER,
GEO. D. DORT,
CHESTER NIMS,
Selectmen of Keene.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER.

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen of the Town of Keene.

GENTLEMEN :—I would respectfully submit the following report :—

The two Engines, Deluge and Neptune, are in good working order ; good and effective companies (although not full) are attached to them, under the Formanship, respectively, of Augustus T Wilder, Esq., and Col. G. D. Dort.

The Hook and Ladder Company is in good condition, with a full complement of men. It sustains its ancient reputation under the lead of D. H. Parker, Esq.

We have had ten fires the past year. three of which were subdued without a general alarm. The Department has been called out seven times, as follows :

March 21, 1862.—Alarm, from the burning of Kate Tylor's house. Through the exertions of the Department, saved the Ell and Out-Buildings. No Insurance.

June 4.—The Paint Shop, in the three story building in the rear of the steam shop known as Buss & Woodward's, was discovered to be on fire. The Department were prompt in their response and saved the building. Damages about \$200. Insured.

August 5.—Edward Joslin's Barn, on West street, was set on fire by lightning. Although the fire spread very rapidly, yet the Department, by their efficiency and prompt action, saved most of the lower story of the building and a part of the hay, in a damaged condition. Damage, \$700. Insured.

Oct. 28.—Alarm, caused by burning a bed and wearing apparel in an upper room in the Cheshire House. Department promptly on hand ; fire subdued without working the Engines. Damage about \$50.

Nov. 26.—Alarm, caused by the burning of a shed attached to house of Eli Reynolds, on Roxbury street. Department were on hand, and with the aid of Citizens saved the house. Damages about \$125.

Dec. 1.—Doct. Thomas E. Hatch's barn and shed were discovered to be on fire. It being one of those places not adjacent to our

bountiful supply of water, the barn and shed, with their valuable contents, were entirely consumed. Damages about \$1000. Insured for \$300.

Alarm, caused by the burning of pail staves in the Dry House belonging to Chase & Fairbanks' Steam Mill. The Building being brick, the fire was kept within the walls. Damage about \$75.

In my report last year, it was recommended that the two old engines, Lion and Tiger, be disposed of, *they being useless*. It has been done, and the proceeds, a little over \$100, paid into the Town treasury.

We have had much inconvenience in times past, in getting the requisite quantity of hose to fires, as our Hose Carriages belonging to the Engines, are not large enough to carry more than half it is necessary to use in most cases. There *was* an old Carriage belonging to the Department, but *time* that causes iron to rust and wood to decay, has been too much for it, and it has gone down under its *burdens*, leaving us in the lurch. Upon consulting with the Selectmen, it was deemed best to appoint a committee to investigate the subject. The result was an order to build a good, substantial, four-wheeled Hose Carriage. The order was given to George Holmes & Brother, who in doing justice to the order, have done much credit to themselves in the workmanship. The Carriage will add much to the efficiency of the Department.

I may be allowed here to congratulate the citizens of Keene that they have been spared so long by the Fire King. I do not believe he knows the condition of our water works. I would again express the deep sense of obligation I feel toward the Assistant Engineers of the Board, and to every man connected with the Department. I would also *impress* it upon the citizens that we always need their help. For their cheerful co-operation in times past, I thank them.

JOSEPH P. WELLS, *Chief Engineer.*

Keene, March 1, 1863.

